

TOPICS OF THE TIMES.

Chewing gum seems to be the school girl's quid of contentment.

It sometimes happens that an innocent man also pleads not guilty.

When a man is looking for difficulties he will find two where he expected one.

At some period in his career every man carries something in his pocket for luck.

The wife who is seeking a divorce from "one of the nearest men" surely cannot expect to find a nicer one.

Harry Lehr's friends say he doesn't wear a bangle and never uses rice powder. We are glad to give space to this statement.

Mr. Carnegie's experience proves that the rich man should always make his private secretary a millionaire before letting him go.

England and the United States are getting so thick that by next Fourth of July King Edward may be setting off cannon crackers.

There can be no doubt that our squadron in European waters has picked up a lot of agreeable experience and some dyspepsia.

A second veteran has refused his pension because he does not think he is entitled to it. Investigation found his predecessor in a lunatic asylum.

England thinks something of adopting our immigration laws to keep out undesirable aliens. Perhaps she has noticed how admirably these restrictions work here.

"The trainmen jumped on the rails and fled to the station." This explains in a large measure the disaster on the Paris underground railway. The trainmen failed to do their duty.

Schwab is reported to be forming a tailors' trust, which is to be modeled after the cigar dealers' trust. Is the glad time coming when we shall with every suit receive a coupon and have a chance after saving up 967,000 of them to get a graphophone?

The college students who went into the Western harvest fields to spend their vacation were not afraid of work. It is safe to conclude that when they are graduated they will continue in the same courageous course in which they have begun, and will receive the reward of courage, namely, that approval of their fellows which brings success.

Civilians are apt to regard the naval and joint maneuvers of the army and navy along our coast as elaborate and rather expensive comedies. For those actively engaged therein, however, these war games are no jokes. In every other respect than in the absence of bodily peril they have all the characteristics of actual warfare. The strenuous rivalry is there and the strain of constant alertness, just as if the participants were really enemies.

Russia was within its rights when it declined to receive the petition for the punishment of the officials whose neglect made the Kishinev anti-Jewish riots possible. The right of international petition is not secured by any international law. Nations may receive petitions from outsiders or not, as pleases them. The effect of the Kishinev protest, however, is as great as if it had been formally received in St. Petersburg. An active campaign for the punishment of the guilty is in progress, and some of the responsible officials have already felt the czar's displeasure.

The friendly act of a Scotsman in the Spanish-American war was lately described by our consul at Southampton, who was formerly consul at Montevideo. The Oregon was expected, and it was also anticipated that she would be short of coal. The consul could not buy so much as a pound of fuel. One evening a Scotsman came to his door, and said, "You want coal?" The man had no power to sell, but he pointed out that he had eight hundred tons on board his vessel, and said he pitied the American captain who could not put his ship alongside, take out the bags of coal, and then "cut the painter." The Oregon did not call, but, said the consul, such an act of friendship touched his heart, although it defied law and order. There were cheers from the assembled American and British sailors and marines and their officers when the story was told.

It would not be advisable to instruct people in easy ways of killing themselves. They are altogether too fond of suicide as it is. It really seems, however, that there is need for popular education in such matters which will keep people from torturing themselves to death with carbolic acid or rat poison. If they must kill themselves they should not endure unnecessary agony. Carbolic acid has attained surprising vogue as a lethal agent, probably because it is cheap and easily procured. It can be bought at any drug store and a nickel's worth is sufficient to kill. Yet it is a most agonizing instrument of death. It is a powerful escharotic—it actually burns and destroys living tissue wherever it touches. The man who drinks carbolic acid pours liquid flame down his throat. It corrodes and eats away the lining of the whole digestive tract. The ensuing torture is indescribable. Rat poison is largely made of arsenic, one of the deadliest and cruellest poisons known to the chemist. It produces pains compared with which the tortures of cholera morbus are insignificant. It excites unquenchable thirst, gripes, convulsions. Death by arsenic is horrible in the extreme. Yet these two agencies of self-destruction are the most frequently employed. Carbolic acid leads, with rat poison a close

second. People torture themselves to death. They should be informed of the agencies which they invite. Perhaps the knowledge would act as a deterrent.

The hearty laugh that comes of wholesome merriment is the sunshine of life that drives creeping gloom shadows from the face and rousa skulking cares from the heart. As soon as the world finds out that you enjoy a hearty laugh it will bring you many a pleasant story. Care flees from an invitation to come and abide with the one who wears it. But not all smiles have real sunshine in them. Some faces have learned the act of "making up" so well that even a smile can be put on so smoothly that no one but a child can fathom its insincerity. A child that has not learned to deceive has not yet learned how to be deceived. The two acquisitions come hand in hand. Children know intuitively whether or not a smile is genuine or is put on like a mask for an occasion. Children are keener than adults in detecting masks, for the reason that adults usually have to look through their own masks to see the masks on others. There is no charm in a smile if it lacks genuineness. A smile may be as deep as a well, and as wide as a barn door. It may reach clean around the face in a double bow at the back; but the instant we detect that it is not genuine we detect it. Thereafter, the more there is of it the worse we hate it. There have been more lies smiled than have ever been told in any other way. The Volapuk language is nothing new. The smile has always been universal speech. It has ever expressed clearly the simplest, the sweetest, the greatest emotions of the human soul. Take the smile and its universal significance away from us, and all our words would become meaningless, because every one of the human emotions that distinguish us from beasts would, like a spring that is stalled in, stagnate for want of an outlet. Addison insists that "there is no real life but cheerful life," and Steele says, "I am persuaded that every time a man smiles, but much more so when he laughs, it adds something to this fragment of life." Giggling, of course, is quite another matter. Laughing may be overdone. There is no fool like one who makes fun at the wrong time. The smile that comes from a really cheerful heart is never out of place. But there are laughs and giggles that are only mouth-deep. Own if you can one of those welcoming faces that bring the sunshine to life's shadowed spots. He who gives most joy ever receives most. Happiness is forever an export joy. The occasional hearty laugh is good, but better still is the steady sunshine of a smiling heart and face. Happiness seldom comes as one great moonstone, but rather as a thousand little beads of joy which we string upon the threads of daily duty and opportunity.

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EDITORIALS

OPINIONS OF GREAT PAPERS ON IMPORTANT SUBJECTS

The End of the World Again.

AMAN of the name of Baxter is causing a commotion in certain quarters of London by prophesying that the world will come to an end in 1924. Mr. Baxter's reasons for setting the limit at 1924 are not very plain to outsiders, but he claims to have Biblical authority for his conclusion. People who foresee the end of the world always have the Bible to back them up. It is simply a matter of interpretation.

Many people found a few years ago that their Bibles plainly pointed to the destruction of the world at the end of the nineteenth century. Signs and portents were everywhere, and when the whistles blew at midnight on the 31st of December and no general explosion came off there were thousands of men, women and children who drew long breaths and gladly decided to take a fresh start.

Prophet Baxter is probably no more of a seer than any of his predecessors in the end-of-the-world predicting business have been, but he may be serving a good purpose. Every time anybody sets a day for the end of the world certain people begin trying to do better. Hence those predictions are not without good results. Sometimes it seems as if society might be considerably benefited if there were more of them.—Chicago Record-Herald.

The Ever Present Germ.

WHERE will science concede to us some measure of safety? It has lately been proved experimentally—which means that it is really so—that books may carry tuberculosis, and it was already known that they communicate scarlet fever and other infectious diseases. It is no longer safe to borrow a book unless we disinfect it thoroughly with powdered formol. If we fly to the mountains to escape germs, we find that even the pearly raindrops that fall there contain them. Almost any one would suppose that in the middle of the sea we should find surcease from them; but certain conclusive observations lately recorded show not only that "even the water of the central portion of the North Atlantic Ocean is not wholly free from bacteria," but that the germs in sea water are increasing in numbers. No sea water and no rain water has been found perfectly devoid of germs, though the rain water over the deep sea is more nearly free from them than the rain water that falls over the land. Not all these wandering germs are hurtful, but some of them are. The conclusion is rapidly being developed in the lay mind that the microbe being omnipresent, one is as safe from him in one place as another.—Harper's Weekly.

Why Men Eat Too Much.

EATING is the greatest of all our standard amusements. A great number of people obviously eat a great deal more than they need, and it is entirely credible that a large proportion of the moderate eaters might thrive as well and look as good as handsome and work as hard and live as long on a very much restricted diet. But would the joy of life continue unimpaired for them? The native-born could subsist for 11 cents a day, but would they think life was worth living on 11 cents' worth of food a day? No, they wouldn't. That is one thing that alls them.—Harper's Weekly.

Summer Life on the Farm.

THERE appears to be a steady demand for sightly farms in the New England States and a growth of that taste which makes people of means prefer the rest of country life during the summer, to the confusion and crowds which make life at a summer hotel wearisome and sends people home in the fall as tired, if not more so, than when they sought relaxation. The extension of steam and trolley lines has robbed country life of a large part of its isolation and helped induce people "to go back to the land." Old farms, which a generation ago hardly kept a family alive, are found to have a market value, owing to panoramas of hill, vale, lake and river, which counted nothing in the

eyes of former owners, and the new occupants draw dividends in health, sunshine, shade and landscape which are fully as valuable as dollars.—Taunton Gazette.

The Nation's Wealth.

THE total wealth of the world is estimated at \$400,000,000,000. These figures are probably lower than they should be, for the reason that statistical returns from South and Central American countries and from the semi-civilized portions of the globe, such as Asiatic nations and the Ottoman empire, are very inaccurate and incomplete. But taking this estimate as correct, the United States owns one-fourth, or \$100,000,000,000, of the entire accumulated capital of the world.

This fact, however, does not mean that the Americans are the best off financially of all the people of the earth. The English are the wealthiest, with the Scotch a close second. Australia comes next, then France, and after her the United States. For the purpose of striking the comparison, the compilation of 1895 from Marshall's "Dictionary of Statistics" is taken, inasmuch as it is fuller than any table subsequently made. The per capita wealth of England is \$1,584; Scotland, \$1,257; Australia, \$1,123; France, \$1,210; United States, \$1,123. Six other countries whose per capita wealth is worthy of mention are the following: Denmark with \$1,104; Canada, \$940; Holland, \$878; Switzerland, \$787; Germany, \$748, and Belgium, \$789. All these figures, of course, have greatly increased since the year they were compiled, but no great change in the relative standing of the different nations has probably resulted thereby.—Kansas City Journal.

The Gift of Laughter.

GOD'S greatest gift to man was the laugh. Without it the human race would have wept itself to death or exterminated itself long ago. Pathos is beautiful. Tragedy is absorbing. But both pathos and tragedy are instantly routed by the laugh.

Laughter has sunshine in it. It is warm. Learned men have searched for the secret of life. What is it but good humor? That's the secret of life being worth living.

What sunshine is to earth good humor is to man. Take the smile and the laugh away and it would be the end of man.

Men can't fight while they enjoy a joke. Death himself recoils from the laugh. The man in a good humor has an enormous advantage over the man who is angry. Anger is dark. Bitterness is filled with shadow. Intolerance is grim and black. Prejudice is blind.

Good humor—with the smile and the laugh—is sunshine in which objects are plain and distortion disappears and wherein phantoms become nothing.—Denver Post.

The Automobilist.

THERE are a great many people in the world who do not seem to realize that their rights end exactly where those of their fellow-beings begin. We are unwilling to believe there are many who are made up of "the combination of Biff and Black George" which that mordant scorching who ran his devastating course a few years ago. What is it that makes a man apparently sane otherwise wish to ride at a reckless speed through the city streets, endangering the lives of others, as soon as he thinks he knows how to operate one of those unconcealed deadly weapons? Were we Buddhists we should believe him to be a reincarnation of the war horse described in the Book of Job, that "swallowed the ground with fierceness and rage." * * * He saith among the trumpets, Ha, ha; and he smelleth the battle afar off.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Should Dark Women Marry Dark Men?

They do these things differently in England, if one may judge by the following article in an English publication on "Should a Dark Woman Marry a Dark Man?"

I know there is a scientific law, "Like repels, unlike attracts." But surely it is a far cry to fit an electrical statement to souls. Though, of course, love may be a subtle kind of magnetism, in which case undoubtedly the dark should marry the fair.

The great advantage of this seems that, roughly speaking, fair people take life more easily than dark ones, and are less nervous and more amiable. Therefore the ideal mate for the dark, energetic, highly strung man is the blonde, placid, good-tempered woman whose calmness will cool his impetuosity.

Just in the same way the golden-haired girl with violet eyes will probably be drawn to the dark Italian-looking fellow whose eloquent brown eyes seem to speak a world of passionate yearning.

His eagerness, his audacity, will move her more than a blonde lover's Saxon handsomeness. The dark lover will be her ideal, the force of contrast will draw them together, and they will be, in the eyes of the world, a perfectly matched pair.

I know of dozens of good ladies who sigh their loudest and exclaim, "Dear me! We shall see what we shall see" when they hear that a dark man and a dark girl are going to make a match of it. According to them the doom of the unfortunate couple is settled, because their hair and eyes are the same in color.

This is going too far. We've all known happy couples who were of the same complexion, just as we've known unhappy pairs whose coloring made a fine contrast.

For the comfort of the dark haired girl who hopes to marry a man whose locks are almost her own color, I'm going to quote a few of the things I have learned from a close study of some few hundred married couples.

If, then, you want to inspire a fierce, overwhelming passion in your lover, you will have a better chance if you are his physical opposite. But if you wish to inspire deep and lasting friendship, you will have a better chance by being his physical counterpart.

Looking round the women I know who are, first and foremost, their husbands' chums, I am amazed to find the majority are dark and have dark husbands.

a fair man and a fair woman are the best comrades. I have invariably found that their pursuits are entirely different.

The fair man and woman are Saxon to the core, and love fields, animals, mud, long walks, and the pleasures of nature, while the dark couple crave excitement and are mentally more acute.

The conclusion of the matter seems to be that a man must choose his wife according to what position he wishes her to fill in his life. If he wants something to worship, something to delight his eyes, something to provide relaxation when the day's work is done, he should choose a golden-haired maiden. If he wants passionate devotion and poetic fervor he should select a girl with raven hair and dark-brown eyes, but he must run the risk of a vehement temper and a jealous disposition. If he is a farmer or a quiet business man he should marry his physical opposite, because the contrast is more piquant. But if he is a man dependent upon his brain for a living, his first need is sympathy, and this will be found in the woman who is of the same coloring and similar temperament.

FIGURES RUN IN MILLIONS.

Immense Proportions Which Our Manufacturers Have Attained.

Few Americans have an adequate conception of the greatness and importance of the manufacturing interests of the country. In fact, it is almost impossible to conceive it, even when we read in the census reports that there are more than half a million establishments for the manufacture of some article of commerce. And these establishments are using capital to the amount of \$9,885,086,900, and employing 807,174 clerks and officials and wage-earners to the number of 5,318,802.

But if the mind refuses this high hurdle what is the mental condition of the fellow who tries to jump the fact that \$7,848,144,755 worth of raw material is consumed annually by this array of factories, and makes out of this material manufactured products worth altogether \$18,014,287,498? That sum is nearly ten times the authorized capitalization of the greatest corporation on earth, the United States Steel Corporation. It represents the actual value of the States of New York and Pennsylvania combined.

The product in 1890 was less by nearly \$4,000,000,000, while that of 1890 was only a little more than \$1,000,000,000. We rank first among the manufacturing nations of the earth, for we produce, according to the most accurate authorities, about half as much as all of Europe combined, the United Kingdom ranking next. Ger-

many third, France fourth and Austria-Hungary fifth.

Further statistics show that 29,000,000 people more than ten years of age are engaged in productive industry. More than one-third are in agriculture, a fifth in domestic and personal service, a fifth in trade and transportation, the professions hold a meager twentieth, while a fourth are in a manufactures and the mechanical pursuits, including mining.

An ingenious statistician has figured out the relative proportions of the sexes engaged in these manufacturing pursuits as follows: If a given establishment employing 100 persons desired the typical division of men, women and children, it would be obliged to employ seventy-seven men more than 16 years of age, twenty women more than 16, and three children or young persons more than 16.

The King and the Reporter.

King Alfonso of Spain has been saying to a Spanish newspaper what he thinks about the press. Could anything be more modern than a king descended from an ancient line of monarchs consenting to an interview with a reporter? This is the way the young ruler delivers himself, or the way London M. A. P. translates him: The truly impartial periodical, which applauds with enthusiasm all that is good and censures with energy all that is evil, will ever merit the sincere esteem of those who prefer the interests of the nation at large to any other consideration.

To reflect the state of opinion and to become the echo of its needs without its prejudices, and with serenity of mind to sacrifice the secondary end to the common good is a most beautiful ideal, and one that falls perfectly within the scope of the mission of the press.

I read the newspapers with interest, and take especial delight in those which, like Die Woche, for instance, keep their readers informed of the advances made in science and industry. I think that it is expedient, even necessary, that the current daily narrative of events in the world, which excite public curiosity, and at times anxiety, should be associated with art, which delights as well as instructs, and with science, whose discoveries should be popularized, especially those that affect industry, so that all who need instruction may have what is useful side by side with what is recreative.

The average woman can't understand where the trouble began, recalling with pride in herself that she always met her husband with a smile.

How often men tell things, and then add, "I wouldn't have it known that it came from me." Then why tell it?

Science AND INVENTION

Benzine locomotives of eight horsepower, drawing freight trucks of a capacity of 25 tons on narrow-gauge tunnel roads, are changing the working of German, Belgian and Austrian mines.

Piano-playing is found by a German physician to be a common cause of nervous disease, 600 girls out of 1,000 being affected among piano players under 12, and only 100 in 1,000 among non-players. The music lessons should not begin before 16.

A new improvement of the microscope made at Java University consists in so arranging the illumination that no light can enter the objective except that reflected by the object under examination. This, it is claimed, brings into view objects about half the size of those formerly proving the limit of minuteness.

The unicorn, so long regarded as a fabled creature, was a horse-like beast with a single horn sticking out straight from its head, and it has been supposed that it was suggested by the rhinoceros. Prof. Wilhelm Boelsche points out that bones of a huge, horse-like beast that actually did carry such a single straight horn are now known. It is called elasmotherium, and it was a contemporary of the mammoth in the Rhine valley and in Siberia.

Prof. A. W. Goodspeed of the University of Pennsylvania has recently made X-ray photographs by means of secondary radiation from his hand exposed to the action of a Crookes tube, which was so screened that its rays could not directly reach the photographic plate. Other things besides the hand, such as pieces of wood, zinc, and brass, were found to possess a similar property of being excited to the emission of invisible rays by the action of the tube. On two occasions Professor Goodspeed has suffered from inflammation of the eyes and throat when sleeping in a room where X-ray experiments had been conducted, and he thinks the cause may have been the secondary radiation from the air or objects in the room.

Experiments made some time ago by Messrs. E. G. Nichols and G. F. Hull were thought to prove that the deflection of a comet's tail on approaching the sun is due to pressure of light. A mixture of dried puff-ball spores and emery sand was poured through a kind of hour-glass hole in a vacuum tube, a beam of light forty times as strong as sunlight being turned on the particles, and the light puff-ball seeds—only a tenth as heavy as water—were blown aside while the emery continued to fall vertically. Corrected calculations now indicate that the pressure of light is not as near solution as was supposed. The effect is ten times as great as the pressure of light could produce, some unknown force seeming to have taken part, and further experiments will be made, using, if possible, lighter particles and a more perfect vacuum.

Development of the great natural resources of the tropical belt of the earth is, in the opinion of the Hon. O. P. Austin, chief of the Bureau of Statistics, a necessity for the future progress of the world. Although this belt contains practically one-half of the land area of the globe, it now contributes but one-sixth of the exports which enter into international commerce. With the growing population of the world and the increase of facilities for transportation, a change should be wrought in this respect. Science has shown how life and health can be protected in the tropics, and India, southern China and other Oriental countries contain populations capable of laboring, and willing to labor, in the tropics. Finally, Mr. Austin points out that in comparative recent years practically all of the tropics, except tropical America, have been brought under the control of temperate-zone countries.

TO SAVE ANCIENT TOMBSTONES.

Work Begun to Preserve Those in the Historic Hancock Cemetery.

In accordance with a vote passed recently by the city council of Quincy, the city engineer of that place has begun to make an accurate plan of the old historic Hancock cemetery in City square, says the Boston Transcript. This burying ground is nearly 200 years old and contains many quaint headstones, the inscriptions on which are fast becoming obliterated. Every stone and tomb in the cemetery will now be numbered and an accurate record of the names on each will be kept. This little cemetery, situated in the heart of the city, probably contains the remains of more illustrious people of revolutionary times than any other one burial spot around Boston. The first headstone of which there is any record was erected to the memory of the Rev. William Thompson, the first minister of the old First Meeting house, in 1698. The first tomb in the place was built in 1675 for Dr. Leonard Hoar, third president of Harvard College and an ancestor of Senator George F. Hoar. The second tomb was built in 1699, and was for Edmund Quincy, one of the first of that illustrious name in this country.

In this cemetery are buried the Rev. John Hancock, once a pastor of the First Church across the way, and father of Governor John Hancock of revolutionary fame, who married "Dorothy Q." Henry Adams, who fled from the dragon persecution in Devonshire, England, and also his son, Joseph Adams, who was one of the original proprietors of the township of Brain-tree and members of the Quincy family, almost without number, are buried there, as are many members of the Hoar family. On a marble slab which covers the graves of the Quincy family is the family coat-of-arms, cut in slate stone, resembling lead. This took the place of the original coat-of-arms, which was cast out of lead, and which was, during the days of the revolutionary war, cut from the tombstone and melted into bullets.

It was in this old cemetery that President John Adams was buried until his later tomb under the First Church was ready to receive his body.

President John Quincy Adams also found a resting place in a tomb of the cemetery when the body was brought home from Washington. For nearly two centuries cattle were allowed to roam at will and graze in the church yard, and it was not until 1809 that steps were taken to inclose the place with a fence. In that year a committee, consisting of President John Adams, his brother, Chief Justice Thomas Boylston Adams, Josiah Quincy and a number of other citizens purchased the land and presented the place to the town of Quincy.

LYNCHINGS ON THE WANE.

Despite Appearances They Are Less Frequent Than Formerly.

Conspicuous crime like the Wilmington lynching almost always provokes imitation. Many cases have been reported in rapid succession since its occurrence. But this will not blind thoughtful students of our civic situation to the fact that the general trend of lynching statistics is downward. From 1884 to 1900 there were 2,516 lynchings in the United States, an average of about 160 annually. Of these, contrary, perhaps, to general opinion, only a little more than two-thirds, 1,678, were of negroes. More than a fifth of all the lynchings were in Northern States.

It is notable, however, that the proportion of whites is decreasing, owing to the diminution of lynchings for horse stealing in the West. Contrary, also, to popular opinion, hardly a fifth of the cases were for assault, and even if we include the categories, attempted assault, alleged assault and assault aggravated by murder, we shall still find less than a fourth, 619, attributable to this cause. It may be worth noting also that forty-two States are represented in the statistics of lynching.

There is a steady tendency downward since 1897, when the number of lynchings was almost exactly that of the average for the sixteen-year period, 166. In 1898 it fell to 127, in 1899 to 107. There was a slight increase in 1900 and in 1901, but in 1902, for the first time since accurate record began, there were less than 100 lynchings, and the first six months of 1903 show only 45, which suggests that this year may be even freer from this social crime than 1902. We must record with regret, however, that nearly a third of the six months' total occurred in June.

Tabulated by States, the figures show Georgia in the lead, with Mississippi, Louisiana, Alabama, Texas and Tennessee following. In no other States has the number of lynchings for the past twenty years reached 100. But, though lynchings are decreasing in number, the area in which they occur grows. They are met with in States where a generation ago they would have been thought impossible. This reveals an evil no longer sectional, but of national concern.

One touch of moral heroism illuminates the Wilmington incident. The father of the victim, when he learned that there was talk of lynching the confessed criminal, published an open letter begging all good citizens to await the orderly process of law. He is a minister and, suffering under a provocation hardly thinkable, showed himself worthy of the Master he had undertaken to set before others as an exemplar.—Churchman.

WOMAN SUCCEEDS ON ROAD.

Mrs. E. G. Taylor Makes Living as Commercial Traveler.

Mrs. E. G. Taylor, commercial traveler, representing a Bridgeport, Conn., house, is stopping at an uptown hotel. In an interview with a Commercial reporter, Mrs. Taylor said:

"Why do I sign my name upon the hotel register, 'E. G. Taylor, New York?' The reason is, no doubt, obvious. I was born in Cavendish, Vt., and received my education in the public schools there. I married in Bel-lows Falls, Vt. My husband died 13 years ago, and I have traveled for nine years, representing Thomas P. Taylor, who, however, is no relative of mine. I have been successful; but it is my aim always to be more so. My sample-trunk is a large one, and with an average excess of 25 pounds. I never use a hand satchel to show samples in part, but have my trunk taken to stores when it is impossible for buyers to view the samples at the hotel.

With the exception of a two-week holiday I travel the entire year, visiting all the large cities east of the Mississippi River, and in winter time, for a period of two months, devoting my time to the large cities of all the Southern States, save Florida.

"Many incidents occur while traveling that relieve the monotony. Recently a rather fleshy woman had evidently secured the privilege of storing in the car part of her household effects and many of her pets. Among the latter was a rooster. The conglomeration reminded me of the sign I once saw in front of a general merchandise store out West which reads: 'Bibles and treacle, goodly books and gimlets for sale here.'

"The hotel clerks always treat me with gentlemanly consideration. The traveling men often extend courtesies that show their goodness of heart. In a convention-crowded city, when hotels were filled, they have more than once surrendered their rooms to me and gone elsewhere to search for quarters."—New York Commercial.

Straw in Egyptian Brick.

The ancient Egyptians had a process for making bricks which rendered them very hard, yet easy to work. An American engineer, Mr. Acheson, thinks he has discovered their secret. The Egyptians used straw and by boiling straw in water and mixing clay with it he found that it gave hard, shapely bricks that did not crack or deform in baking. Analysis proved the effect due to tannin dissolved